



## SAAG ORIENTATION MEETING | Meeting Summary

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**Date + Time**     *February 28, 2018 | 6-9pm*

**Location**         *San Jose City Hall, Committee Rooms 118-120*

**Meeting Objectives**

- *SAAG Orientation*
- *Discuss SAAG roles, responsibilities and meeting schedule*
- *Build relationships among SAAG members*

## AGENDA

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1. **Welcome and Introductions**
2. **Background: Opportunity and City Planning Context**
3. **SAAG Members – “Who We Are”**
4. **SAAG Overview – “How We Will Work Together”**
5. **Public Comment**
6. **Next Steps**
7. **Adjourn**

## ATTENDANCE

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**SAAG Members:** 32 of the 38 SAAG members were present at the meeting (*please see the Meeting Minutes posted to the project website for the names of SAAG members that were present*)

**City Staff :** Kim Walesh – *Deputy City Manager*; Lee Wilcox – *Chief of Staff*; Loren Haley – *Real Estate Manager*; Nanci Klein – *Director of Real Estate*; Rosalynn Hughey – *Acting Director, Planning, Building, and Code Enforcement*

**Consultant Team:** Dave Javid – *Principal (Plan to Place)*; Matt Raimi – *Principal (Raimi+Associates)*

**Public :** There were approximately 50 members of the public present at the meeting



# SUMMARY

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The following is a brief summary of the input received from the SAAG members and public in attendance at the SAAG orientation meeting on February 28, 2018.

## **SAAG Members – “Who We Are”**

SAAG members were asked their hopes and dreams related to their vision for the Diridon Station Area and the SAAG process and shared the following:

### ***What are your hopes for the Diridon Station Area Project and/or SAAG process?***

- Do something big
- Create a place to live, work and play
- World class transportation system
- Local workers are hired
- Take advantage of the opportunity
- Model for the country
- Google a catalyst for downtown
- Make it the Downtown always hoped it would be
- Create a true hub
- Serve the San Jose community
- Works for all people
- Coherent development
- Equitable, sustainable and resilient development
- Bold project
- Vibrant
- Dynamic public spaces
- Downtown flair
- More is done than said
- Dense, affordable and mixed use
- Avoid renter displacement
- Space for new businesses
- Community driven process
- Transparent and inclusive process
- People find common ground
- As collaborative as the good neighborhood committee
- SAAG works productively together

### ***What are your fears about the project and/or SAAG process?***

- Being afraid of change
- Not reaching the project’s potential
- Delays
- Being Timid
- Getting the project/process wrong
- Bureaucratic process
- Won’t ask for enough from Google
- Actions not implemented
- Affordability will decrease
- Vision will fizzle
- San Jose will become a company (Google) town
- Negative impact on small businesses
- Destroy historic neighborhoods
- Displacement of low income residents
- Traffic
- Further divide class and demographics
- Negative impact on the environment
- Conflicts on SAAG
- SAAG will not represent the community
- Non-transparent process
- People at risk are not represented
- Process does not include the community



SAAG members were also encouraged to share their perspectives on the topics or opportunities that were most important to them, to be discussed at future meetings. The following is summary of the input received:

### ***Proposed Topics or Opportunities to Explore***

- Challenges related to daylighting Los Gatos creek and building a creek trail
- Latest data on traffic, noise and environmental impacts
- Value capture – how it works
- Community Benefits Agreements including examples from other big projects in the State
- Land use context
- Affordability levels now and in the future
- Impact on the quality of housing in the Downtown
- Historic sign on Montgomery
- Rationale behind selling some properties
- Relationships with Google – City and individuals
- Displacement – what will it look like with the Google project
- Citywide impacts of Google and how to mitigate the impacts
- An overview of the Diridon Station Area Plan and other planning documents: Goals, requirements, etc. Build off of the work done to date.
- An overview/understanding of the City's housing plan. Where will housing go? How much? What affordability levels?
- Existing urban design standards
- Approach to sustainability
- Discussion of what "big and different" looks like
- Positive impacts – what will the project bring to the City?
- Analysis of workforce housing in the City and what impact (positive or negative) the Google project will have
- Analysis of the types of jobs that will be created and who will have access to the jobs
- Talk about the vision for San Jose in 2040 and how this is a stepping stone for the vision
- Summary of past discussions that the City has had with Google and others – bring everyone up to speed on discussions, decisions, policies, etc.
- More details on the transportation network around the station – transit, road, bike, ped, etc. – and future transportation (TNCs, AVs)
- Historic resources and unique characteristics that should be preserved
- Scope of work for the SAAG – what is the SAAG weighing in on, what is the product and what will be expected of the SAAG

### ***Other comments/questions raised by SAAG members***

- What is the decision-making process and how does the SAAG work with the City?
- SAAG members should disclose relationship with Google
- Provide childcare at meetings
- Hold meetings in transit-accessible locations
- Send materials in advance of the meetings
- Provide printed PPTs at the meetings so SAAG members can follow along
- Allow for public comment at the beginning of the meeting



## **SAAG Overview – “How We Will Work Together”**

SAAG Members were also asked to work together to define “group agreements” or how they would like to work together throughout the process. The consensus was to create a safe, respectful and collaborate environment that encourages everyone to share their thoughts. The following group agreements were noted and will be revisited at the beginning of every SAAG meeting:

### ***Draft Group Agreements***

- No “got you” moments
- Positive interactions
- Do the right thing and don’t be evil
- Love thy neighbor
- Remember how big the project is and take a big picture perspective
- Represent the diverse community; not all community members are represented at the table
- Respect everyone else at the table – including diverse perspective
- Be brave enough to acknowledge where we are now and how we got here
- Everyone can win

### **Public Comments**

The following are public comments that were both presented at the meeting and through written comments.

- Willow Glen neighborhood was left out of SAAG; a representative should be included on the advisory group
- Consider alternatives for trail design that will keep cyclists off of roadways
- Involve the community in the process; ideas from the SAAG should continue to be used in future processes about Diridon; a strong voice for the Eastside is needed in the process; low income residents in Downtown need to be respected.
- Send an email to the public before the meeting with information/meeting content
- Conduct a historical racial analysis of the Downtown to understand the past and present race dynamics at play to address gentrification
- Buildings should have bird-safe design; enhance the creeks; hydrology is critical
- Examine traffic impacts near and to schools; housing for teachers is a critical issue
- Don’t lose sight of the impacts to neighborhoods immediately adjacent to Diridon
- Provide the SAAG and the public with more background information on big projects and an overview of everything that is going on in the Diridon station area. Context is missing for the project